RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, as far as possible.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know, Sir, whether the recent transfers of judicial officers conform to the policy of Government not to post judicial officers as far as possible in their native places?

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not know what the member refers to, Sir, by recent transfers.

PRESIDENT: Why not the member draw pointed attention to some transfers?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Mr. K. K. Thomas transferred from Quilon to Kottayam; Mr. K. Sankaran newly appointed; to Quilon Mr, Nilakanta Aiyar at Nagercoil—all these are in their native places.

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Does that arise, Sir, in connection with the transfer of the Magistrate at Karunagapalli?

PRESIDENT. The policy in regard to the transfer of officers is sought to be known. The answer to the question whether care is taken not to post the judicial officers to their native places was that, as far possible, they are not posted to their native places. Now Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai has drawn the attention of Government to certain instances where the officers have been posted to their native places and he wants to know how these happened. Are these the exceptions?

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): These tranfers were sanctioned on the recommendation of the High Court; and the High Court must have taken all facts into consideration before making their recommendation. If any further enquiry is found to be necessary in regard to this matter, the High Court may be consulted.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether Government will direct that, as far as possible, the judicial officers are not appointed in their native places?

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, Sir.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): How long has this Magistrate been at this particular place?

RAO BAHADUR DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Since Meenam 1108.

Grant from the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

137 ✻**MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara II*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any grant is given, to this State, by the Imperial Council of Agriculture at Delhi, to carry on research work;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, how many items of research work are being carried on by these grants; and

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(*c*) whether they are undertaking any research works from their own funds; if so, what they are; what the estimated cost of each is; and how long each of them is to go on?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes. The Imperial Council of Agricultural Research has recently sanctioned a grant for the investigation of the root disease of the cocoanut palm.

(*b*) As the grant was sanctioned only recently, work has yet to be started.

(*c*) In the Agricultural Research Laboratory and in the Experimental Farms under the Department of Agriculture, several problems relating to soils, manures, crops and plant pests and diseases are under investigation. It is not possible to state specifically the cost of each of these investigations separately as the work is being carried on by the staff in the Agricultural Department as part of its normal duties.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know the date, approximately at least, when this grant was sanctioned?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): June 1936.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know whether there is at present any one in the department sufficiently competent to make these investigations?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): There is the Mycologist.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know whether on any previous occasion an attempt was made to investigate in regard to this?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): The investigation is being carried on.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): How long is it since the department has begun to tackle the problems mentioned in the answer to part (*c*) of the question?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Ever since the Mycologist was appointed.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*): May I know whether Government have successfully tackled any problem with reference to the agricultural advancement of the State?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): No positive results have been obtained. The researches are still in progress.

Excise Sub-Office at Mannar.

138. ***MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there has been a demand for the establishment of an Excise sub-office at Mannar in Tiruvalla taluk;

(*b*) whether the public of Mannar have memorialised that an Excise sub-office at Mannar is necessary for prevention of illicit tapping, etc.;

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